

Part VII

Middle Grades

Sec. 10-145d-444. When Required

This middle grades certificate, or a secondary academic certificate, is required for anyone employed by a board of education as a teacher of these subjects in a middle school setting.

Sec. 10-145d-445. Validity of certificates

Middle grades certificates are valid for teaching endorsements in specific subject areas. When departmentalized instruction is offered in an elementary school, the subject area endorsement is valid for such instruction in grades five and six, and when departmentalized instruction is offered in a foreign language in an elementary school, the endorsement is valid for such instruction in grades four, five and six.

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Sec. 10-145d-446. Initial educator certificate requirements

On and after July 1, 1998, to receive an initial educator certificate for teaching at the middle grades, an applicant shall present evidence of meeting the following requirements in addition to meeting the assessment requirements, as appropriate:

- (a) Holds a bachelor's degree from an approved institution;
- (b) Has a minimum of 39 semester hours of credit in general academic in five of the six areas listed below. A survey course in United States history, comprised of not fewer than three semester hours of credit shall be included.
 - (1) English;
 - (2) Natural sciences;
 - (3) Mathematics;
 - (4) Social studies;
 - (5) Foreign language; and
 - (6) Fine arts;
- (c) Has completed the requirement in either subdivisions (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection:
 - (1) A subject area major in any of the following areas: English, mathematics, biology, physics, chemistry, earth science, general science, social science, history, political science, economics, geography, anthropology, sociology; or
 - (2) An interdisciplinary major in humanities, history/social science, or integrated science; or
 - (3) 24 semester hours of study in a subject (English, mathematics, biology, physics, chemistry, earth science, social science, history, political science, economics, geography, anthropology, sociology) and either 15 semester hours in a second subject (English, mathematics, biology, physics, chemistry, earth science, social science, history, political science, economics, geography, anthropology, sociology) which may result in endorsements in the two subject areas, or 15 semester hours in an all level endorsement subject, special education or related subjects (which will not qualify for an additional teaching endorsement); and
- (d) Has a minimum of 30 semester hours of credit in professional education in a planned program of study and experience in middle grades education, to be distributed among each of the following:
 - (1) Foundations of education. This group includes areas such as: philosophy of education, school effectiveness, history of education, comparative education and philosophy and organization of middle grade education;
 - (2) Educational psychology. This group includes areas such as: human growth and development, psychology of learning, child-adolescent psychology, mental hygiene, developmental characteristics of early adolescent students and family studies;
 - (3) Curriculum and methods of teaching. This shall include a minimum of six semester hours of credit including study in reading and writing across the middle grades curriculum, and methods for teaching at the middle grades;

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- (4) Supervised observation, participation, and full-time responsible student teaching, totaling at least six but not more than 12 semester hours of credit in a middle grades school setting;
and
- (5) A course study in special education comprised of not fewer than 36 clock hours, which shall include study in understanding the growth and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and gifted and talented children and children who may require special education, and methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively with special-needs children in the regular classroom.
- (e) For the English major or English concentration, courses shall include study in the evaluation and instruction of students in the area of language arts;
- (f) For the history or social science major or concentration, the history courses shall include study in U.S. history, western civilization or European history and nonwestern history, and study in at least three areas of social science.
- (g) For the mathematics major or concentration, courses shall include study in calculus.
- (h) For the humanities interdisciplinary major, 18 semester hours of study in language arts/English, and course work in at least 3 areas: literature, philosophy, drama, fine arts, dance, theology or foreign language.
- (i) For the integrated science interdisciplinary major, a concentration in one area of science of at least 18 semester hours of credit, including a minimum of three lab courses, and course work in each of the other three areas of science, for a minimum of seven credits each including at least one lab course in each area.
- (j) Complete a course of study in special education comprised of not fewer than 36 clock hours, which shall include study in understanding the growth and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and gifted and talented children and children who may require special education, and methods for identifying, planning for and working effectively with special-needs children in the regular classroom.

Sec. 10-145d-447. Provisional educator certificate requirements

To receive a provisional educator certificate for teaching at the middle grades an applicant shall present evidence of meeting the preparation and eligibility requirements for an initial educator certificate, in addition to meeting the following requirements:

- (a) Has successfully completed the BEST assessment, as may have been made available by the Board, and 10 school months of successful teaching under the initial educator certificate, interim educator certificate, or durational shortage area permit. Persons who obtained the initial educator certificate upon completion of successful service under the temporary 90-day certificate shall be required to complete 20 school months of successful teaching under the initial educator certificate; or
- (b) Has completed, within 10 years prior to application, at least 30 school months of successful teaching in a subject area or field appropriate to the subject area or field for which the provisional educator certificate is sought, in a public, approved nonpublic school or nonpublic school approved by the appropriate governing body in another state; or

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- (c) Has served a board of education successfully under a provisional teaching certificate for the school year immediately preceding application. The subject area or field taught during the preceding year shall be the same for which provisional educator certification is sought.

Sec. 10-145d-448. Professional educator certificate requirements

To receive a professional educator certificate for teaching at the middle grades an applicant shall present evidence of having met the following requirements:

- (a) Has completed 30 school months of successful teaching under the provisional educator certificate, interim educator certificate or provisional teaching certificate; and
- (b) Has met one of the following requirements for course work at an approved institution or institutions:
 - (1) Prior to July 1, 2003, an applicant who holds or held a provisional educator certificate shall have completed not less than 30 semester hours of credit beyond the bachelor's degree. Such course work need not necessarily lead to a master's degree and may include graduate or undergraduate courses. It shall consist of:
 - (A) A planned program at an approved institution, related directly to the subject areas or grade levels of the endorsement or in an area or areas related to the teacher's ability to provide instruction effectively or to meet locally determined goals and objectives; or
 - (B) An individual program which is mutually determined or approved by the teacher and the employing agent of the board of education and which is designed to increase the ability of the teacher to improve student learning.
 - (2) Prior to July 1, 2003, an applicant who holds or held a 10-year provisional teaching certificate shall have completed 30 semester hours of credit beyond the bachelor's degree. Such course work need not necessarily lead to a master's degree and may include graduate or undergraduate courses. It shall consist of:
 - (A) A planned program at an approved institution; or
 - (B) An individual program which is mutually determined or approved by the teacher and the employing agent of the board of education and which is designed to increase the ability of the teacher to improve student learning. Such an individual program may include course work taken at one or more approved institutions and may include registered in-service programs sponsored by local or regional boards of education or approved nonpublic schools upon the approval of the joint subcommittee of the Board of Governors of Higher Education and the Board established pursuant to Section 10-155b of the Connecticut general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1983.
 - (3) Prior to July 1, 2003, an applicant who holds or held a five-year provisional teaching certificate shall have completed either a master's degree or not less than 30 semester hours

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of credit beyond the bachelor's degree. Such course work need not necessarily lead to a master's degree and may include graduate or undergraduate courses. Except as otherwise provided, it shall consist of:

- (A) A master's degree at an approved institution; or
 - (B) An individually planned program consisting of at least 30 semester hours of credit beyond the bachelor's degree, which includes at least 15 semester hours of credit in general academic courses in addition to the credits offered to fulfill the requirements for the provisional educator certificate. Exceptions to the requirement of 15 semester hours of credit in general academic courses may be granted when an institution or the Department determines that the applicant has, in the combined program of undergraduate and post-baccalaureate preparation, met this requirement.
- (4) On and after July 1, 2003, any applicant who holds or held a provisional teaching or provisional educator certificate shall have completed, at an approved institution, either a master's degree or at least 30 semester hours of graduate credit.